

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAVANA 01859 012123Z
ACTION ARA-14

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FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2385

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FOR ARA/CCA AND VO/FOD

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CVIS SHUM CU
SUBJ: CUBAN EMIGRATION REOUTES

REF: STATE 161238

1. USINT HAS NO PRACTICAL MEANS OF QUANTIFYING TROUBLE INVOLVED IN CHANGING DESTINATION WHICH GENERALLY IS SHON ON EXIT PERMIT. WE CAN ONLY JUDGE THAT IT TAKES MORE TROUBLE AND TIME THAN IT IS WORTH WHEN THE OBJECT OF THE GAME IS TO LEAVE CUBA ASAP. OUR CLIENTS WHO HAVE EXIT PERMISSION TEND TO CONCENTRATE ON LEAVING PERIOD, RATHER THAN ON CONVENIENCE OF ROUTING. FOR THIS REASON, SOME CUBANS LEAVE FOR SPAIN WITHOUT U.S. DOCUMENTATION KNOWING FULL WELL THEY CAN GET AN IV HERE BECAUSE THEY, A) WANT TO LEAVE CUBA AS SOON AS THEIR DEPARTURE IS AUTHORIZED AND, B) THINK THE IV PROCESS IS SIMPLER IN SPAIN.

2. AS DEPT MUST BE AWARE, THOUSANDS OF CUBAN HAVE WANTED TO LEAVE THIS ISLAND FOR YEAR. OF THOSE, ONLY A HANDFUL ARE AUTHORIZED DEPARTURES EACH YEAR. THERE IS A KIND OF "SLAIDA" SUB-CULTURE IN CUBA MADE UP OF THOSE WHO MISSED THE BOAT AT CAMARIOCA, WHO DIDN'T MAKE THE VARADERO FLIGHTS, THOSE WHO HAVE TRIED TO ESCAPE, THE EX-POLITICAL PRISONERS, THOSE WHO WERE LEFT BEHIND BY THEIR SPOUSES, PARENTS, OR

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CHILDREN WHO THEY HAVEN'T SEEN IN YEARS. IN SHORT, IT'S A SELLER'S MARKET. WHEN SOMEONE GETS "SLAIDA" AFTER YEARS HOUNDING IMMIGRATION, DURING WHICH TIME HE PROBABLY HAS BEEN BLACK-BALLED AT WORK (IF NOT FIRED OUTRIGHT AND SENT TO "AGRICULTURA" TO CUT CAN), DENIED AN EDUCATION, OSTRACIZED IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD AS "GUAANO" (WORM) FOR SIMPLY WANTING TO LEAVE, HE DOESN'T QUibble ABOUT ROUTING HE LEAVES, BEFORE

THE DOOR SHUTS AGAIN AS IT HAS SOM MANY TIMES BEFORE IN THE
LAST 16 YEARS.

3. AS DEPT WELL AWARE USINT IS ACCPEING TELEGRAPHIS SUPPORT
EVIDENCE, WHICH IS RECIEVED WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY. BEST MEANS
TO RELAY AFFIDAVITS BY MAIL IS THROUGH POUCH ADDRESS.

4. PLEASE PROVIDE NAME OF RELATIVE CONGRESSMAN LEHMAN'S
CONSTITUENT ALLEGES USINT TOLD IT WAS UNWISE TO CABLE AFFI-
DAVIT: WE WILL THEN CHECK OUT WITH THE LOCAL EMPLOYEE WHO
HANDLED PARTICULAR CASE AS TO WHAT WE REALLY TOLD APPLICANT.
GLASSMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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